

Labor; Jeffery Kohler, Associate Director, Mine Safety and Health Research, National Institute of Occupational Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; Joseph Osterman, Managing Director, National Transportation Safety Board; Dennis O'Dell, United Workers of America, Fairfax, Virginia; Robert L. Ferriter, Colorado School of Mines, Golden; and Bruce Watzman, National Mining Association, Washington, D.C.

PRESERVING THE RULE OF LAW

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine preserving the rule of law in the fight against terrorism, after receiving testimony from Jack Landman Goldsmith, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

NOMINATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Paul J. Hutter, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 3717–3735; and 9 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 222–224; and H. Res. 699–700, 705–708 were introduced. **Pages H11170–71**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H11171–72**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1680, to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to regulate the sale of ammonium nitrate to prevent and deter the acquisition of ammonium nitrate by terrorists, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–357);

H. Res. 701, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 928) to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to enhance the independence of the Inspectors General and to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (H. Rept. 110–358);

H. Res. 702, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) to require accountability for contractors and contract personnel under Federal contracts (H. Rept. 110–359);

H. Res. 703, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude discharges of indebtedness on principal residences from gross income (H. Rept. 110–360);

H. Res. 704, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3246) to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide a comprehensive regional approach to economic and infrastructure development in the most severely economically distressed regions in the Nation (H. Rept. 110–361);

H.R. 2895, to establish the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United

States to provide for the construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low-income families, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–362); and

H.R. 3002, to establish a demonstration program to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to guarantee obligations issued by Indian tribes to finance community and economic development activities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–363). **Page H11170**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cohen to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H11073**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:13 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H11074**

United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Miller (FL) to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly to fill the existing vacancy thereon. **Page H11078**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 699, electing Representative McCarthy (CA) to the Committee on Financial Services. **Pages H11081–85**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Awarding a congressional gold medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.: S. 474, to award a congressional gold medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11078–81**

Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin: H.

Res. 657, amended, to express heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin;

Pages H11081–85

International Emergency Economic Powers Enhancement Act: S. 1612, to amend the penalty provisions in the International Emergency Economic Powers Act—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H11085–87

Recognizing the commencement of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal, and commending Muslims in the United States and throughout the world for their faith: H. Res. 635, amended, to recognize the commencement of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal, and to commend Muslims in the United States and throughout the world for their faith, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 376 yeas with none voting “nay” and with 42 voting “present”, Roll No. 928;

Pages H11087–90, H11126

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Recognizing the commencement of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal, and expressing respect to Muslims in the United States and throughout the world on this occasion, and for other purposes.”.

Page H11126

Recognizing that violence poses an increasingly serious threat to peace and stability in Central America and supporting expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence: H. Res. 564, amended, to recognize that violence poses an increasingly serious threat to peace and stability in Central America and to support expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence;

Pages H11090–92

Condemning the persecution of labor rights advocates in Iran: H. Con. Res. 203, amended, to condemn the persecution of labor rights advocates in Iran, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 418 yeas to 1 nay with 1 voting “present,” Roll No. 929;

Pages H11092–93, H11126–27

Declaring that it shall continue to be the policy of the United States, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act, to make available to Taiwan such defense articles and services as may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability: H. Res. 676, to declare that it shall continue to be the policy of the United States, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act, to make available to Taiwan such defense articles and services

as may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability;

Pages H11094–96

Providing compensation to relatives of United States citizens who were killed as a result of the bombings of United States Embassies in East Africa on August 7, 1998: H.R. 2828, amended, to provide compensation to relatives of United States citizens who were killed as a result of the bombings of United States Embassies in East Africa on August 7, 1998, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 12 nays, Roll No. 930;

Pages H11096–99, H11127–28

Ethiopia Democracy and Accountability Act of 2007: H.R. 2003, amended, to encourage and facilitate the consolidation of peace and security, respect for human rights, democracy, and economic freedom in Ethiopia;

Pages H11099–H11103

200th Anniversary Commemoration Commission of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade Act of 2007: H.R. 3432, amended, to establish the 200th Anniversary Commemoration Commission of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade;

Pages H11103–07

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To establish the Commission on the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.”.

Page H11107

Amending the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to permit individuals who have served as employees of the Office of Compliance to serve as Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, or General Counsel of the Office, and permitting individuals appointed to such positions to serve one additional term: H.R. 3571, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to permit individuals who have served as employees of the Office of Compliance to serve as Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, or General Counsel of the Office, and to permit individuals appointed to such positions to serve one additional term;

Pages H11107–08

Federal Protective Service Guard Contracting Reform Act of 2007: H.R. 3068, amended, to prohibit the award of contracts to provide guard services under the contract security guard program of the Federal Protective Service to a business concern that is owned, controlled, or operated by an individual who has been convicted of a felony;

Pages H11108–09

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the immediate and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi: H. Con. Res. 200, amended, to express the sense of Congress regarding the immediate and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 413 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 931;

Pages H11109–16, H11128

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the immediate

and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the severely deteriorating human rights situation in Burma.”

Page H11128

Requiring the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior military leaders, to develop and transmit to Congress a comprehensive strategy for the redeployment of United States Armed Forces in Iraq: H.R. 3087, amended, to require the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior military leaders, to develop and transmit to Congress a comprehensive strategy for the redeployment of United States Armed Forces in Iraq, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 377 yeas to 46 nays, Roll No. 927. Pages H11116–25

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To require the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress reports on the status of planning for the redeployment of the Armed Forces from Iraq and to require the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and appropriate senior officials of the Department of Defense to meet with Congress to brief Congress on the matters contained in the reports.”

Page H11125

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative McCarthy (CA) wherein he resigned from the Committee on Natural Resources, effective today.

Page H11099

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative McCarthy (CA) wherein he resigned from the Committee on Agriculture, effective today.

Page H11099

Recess: The House recessed at 1:33 p.m. and reconvened at 3 p.m.

Page H11109

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H11125, H11126, H11126–27 and H11128. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Sub committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Food Aid Programs. Testimony was heard from Thomas Melito, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; Mark Keenum, Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA; Jim

Kunder, Acting Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development, Department of State; Josette Sheeran, Executive Director, United Nations World Food Programme; and public witnesses.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPETITION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Digital Future of the United States: Part VI: The Future of Telecommunications Competition.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FINANCIAL SYSTEM SYSTEMIC RISKS

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled “Systemic Risk: Examining Regulators’ Ability to React to Threats in the Financial System.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CREDIT-BASED INSURANCE SCORES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Credit-Based Insurance Scores: Are They Fair?” Testimony was heard from J. Thomas Rosch, Commissioner, FTC; J. P. Schmidt, Commissioner of Insurance, State of Hawaii; Mike Kreidler, Commissioner of Insurance, State of Washington; and public witnesses.

ETHIOPIA DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, and Global Health held a hearing on Ethiopia and the State of Democracy: Effects on Human Rights and Humanitarian Conditions in the Ogaden and Somalia. Testimony was heard from Jendayi Frazer, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

LEVERAGING REMITTANCES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing on Leveraging Remittances for Families and Communities. Testimony was heard from Paul J. Bonicelli, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, U.S. Agency for International Development, Department of State; and public witnesses.

BRIEFING—CONTESTED ELECTION—13TH DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

Committee on House Administration: Election Task Force received a briefing on the Status of the Investigation into FL–13 Congressional District Contested Election. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the GAO: Nabajyoti Barkakati, Senior Level Technologist, Center for Technology and Engineering Applied Research and Methods; Gloria Jarmon, Congressional Relations; and Jan Montgomery, Office of the General Counsel.